



In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the title insert:

Cross-reference to related applications

This application claims priority to Norwegian patent application 20030934 filed February 27, 2003.

Page 1, first paragraph:

The present invention relates to a device ~~according to the preamble of claim 1~~ for removing solids from a fluid containment space, a separator ~~comprising~~ including such a device and a method ~~according to the preamble of claim 9~~ for removing solids from a fluid containment space.

Paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4:

~~According to the invention, this object is achieved by a device having the features of claim 1.~~

According to the invention, at least one inlet opening and at least one outlet opening is provided on the same side of the hood, the outlet opening or openings being provided on a level above the inlet opening or openings, and the hood being provided with means for directing fluids through

the outlet opening or openings on said first side of the hood from the inner space of the hood to the fluid containment space exterior of the hood in an essentially horizontal direction or in a direction towards the bottom surface of the fluid containment space. Since a part of the fluids entering the inner space of the hood will be recirculated to the fluid containment space exterior of the hood, a larger inflow into the inner space of the hood is allowed as compared to a correspondingly dimensioned device having a corresponding drain capacity but no outlet openings in the hood. This implies that the hood of the inventive device can be designed with larger inlet openings as compared to such a correspondingly dimensioned device. The larger the inlet openings, the smaller quantity of fluids will in connection with a flushing sequence hit the outer surface of the hood and be directed upwards in the fluid containment space. The outflow from the inner space of the hood is essentially horizontally directed or directed towards the bottom surface of the fluid containment space, and this outflow will therefore not affect the fluids accommodated in the upper part of the fluid containment space to any appreciable extent. The outflow through the outlet opening or openings in the hood will however affect any vertically directed fluid flow caused by fluids hitting the outer surface of the hood in connection with a flushing sequence so as to deflect this vertically directed fluid flow. Consequently, this outflow will contribute in preventing the fluid flows generated in connection with a flushing sequence from negatively affecting the fluids accommodated in the upper part of the fluid containment space. The solids to be removed are also kept close to the bottom of the fluid containment space, and not spread out to a larger part or the entire volume of said space. With the device according to the invention there will be given possibilities to perform a flushing sequence without having to interrupt the normal operation of the appliance equipped with the device, since the fluid circulation caused by the flushing means can be concentrated to the lower

part of the fluid containment space.

Page 5, third paragraph:

The invention also relates to a separator ~~according to claim 8 comprising~~ including a separator vessel provided with an inventive device at the bottom surface.

Page 5, fourth paragraph:

The invention also relates to a method ~~according to claim 9~~ for removing solids from a fluid containment space.